

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of the Riverside City Council Meeting

Held on Thursday, October 20, 2022

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Williams called the Riverside, Ohio City Council Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Riverside Administrative Offices located at 5200 Springfield Street, Suite 100, Riverside, Ohio, 45431.

**ROLL CALL:** Council attendance was as follows: Mr. Denning, present; Mrs. Franklin, present; Ms. Fry, present; Mr. Joseph, present; Ms. Lommatzsch, present; Mr. Maxfield, absent; and Mayor Williams, present.

Staff present was as follows: Josh Rauch, City Manager; Chris Lohr, Assistant City Manager; Tom Garrett, Finance Director; Dalma Grandjean, Law Director; and Katie Lewallen, Clerk of Council.

**EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBERS:** No members of council were absent.

**ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA:** No changes were made to the agenda.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Deputy Mayor Denning moved, seconded by Mr. Maxfield, to approve the agenda. All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Williams led the pledge of allegiance.

**PRESENTATION:** Mr. Mike Barhorst, Sinclair Community College Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, stated he was also a representative for the Citizens for Sinclair and their upcoming levy. Sinclair's motto is "Find the need and endeavor to meet it," and in 1887 Dayton YMCA General Secretary David A. Sinclair founded the courses of study to create skilled citizens to succeed in local jobs and life. Mr. Barhorst stated that Sinclair Community College is the third largest in Ohio by way of enrollment. He presented Sinclair's impact on the City of Riverside. In FY2022, 688 residents enrolled, 86 Sinclair degrees and certificates were awarded, 7,790 college credit were earned, and 255 resident high school students enrolled in College Credit Plus. He added that annual tuition costs saved by residents by attending Sinclair instead of a state university was \$2.5 million, and \$1.5 million was awarded to residents in FY2022. He added they also offer a number of services and offer a food pantry to students who are food insecure. He stated that full-time tuition for a year is under \$4,000 and a bit higher for out of county due to local levies that subsidize. He reviewed a number of statistics for Sinclair indicating that 90% of graduates stay in the area. He stated that Sinclair is a national leader in improving student achievement; they have increased the number of credentials earned by students five-fold with a lot of them being a function of innovative programs. The performance is similar for the minority population and African American students. He presented the number of Sinclair degree graduates and certificate completers in key professions like healthcare, professional, technical, and first responders. There are over 100 schools that are in the Sinclair High School Partnership program as well as students in a home school program. Nearly 3,000 students transfer to universities each year from Sinclair going to over 400 institutions across the country. He presented a slide of firms they partner with to do registered apprenticeships.

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Mr. Barhorst stated that the upcoming levy is known as Issue 10. Sinclair is one of the lowest tuitions in the state while offering the highest quality education and training. They have no debt; it allows them to remain flexible. He presented the FY2022 operating budget revenue sources. There are two levies they have, Levy A providing 20% of their budget and Levy B, which is up for renewal, provides 6% of their budget. This levy expires at the end of 2023 and has been ongoing for 56 years. Issue 10 is a renewal so no increase in taxes; it generates \$9.0 million per year. This is about \$35 per year for a homeowner of a \$100,000 home. He listed the endorsements and stated there was support on both sides of the aisle.

Mr. Maxfield stated he appreciates the work that Sinclair does with the schools. From his experience, he knows several kids who have benefitted from the tech prep scholarship and technical programs. He added that around \$500,000 is earned by Stebbins High School graduates through career technical programs. He wishes they would see more kids take advantage of the two to four year technical programs as it is an amazing cost savings.

Mr. Joseph stated he is a transfer from Sinclair to a four year university, Antioch. He started at Sinclair in 2017 after training for the Navy. He made a failed attempt at going to a community college right after high school as he didn't have the right mindset at the time. His fiancé egged him on to get his degree. He was terrified as he stated he was not a good student. He took the entrance exam, didn't do so well at math, but took those needed courses, and he got through it. Sinclair taught him how to get back into school and be a college student. It will help get a person ready for a four year university. They help you get back to how to learn. He spoke to an advisor who told him about the Antioch Transfer Program; he never thought he would get an associates degree, but within three years with some military transfer credits, he received his bachelor's degree. He was not good at math, but he made up for it and now has a good job in accounting. He is honored to have Sinclair in the community.

Mayor Williams stated there are many who have Sinclair stories that live in the community, and he as well was a transfer student. He was grateful to have Sinclair in his life at age 18 and 19 before transferring to a four year college. He did perfectly fine in that college because Sinclair built that foundation for him. Sinclair is a lot like the Air Force Museum in that people take it for granted thinking every region has a wonderful two-year college. Sinclair is very affordable, and they are very fortunate in Montgomery County to have the resources they do. The College Credit Plus Program is a great program, and so many students from local high schools have taken advantage of this and getting a jump start. He is proud they can be a part of this team.

Ms. Lommatzsch moved to endorse Issue 10, the Sinclair levy; Mr. Maxfield seconded. All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

**MINUTES:** Deputy Mayor Denning moved, seconded by Mrs. Franklin, to approve the minutes of the October 1, 2022, special council strategic planning session, and the October 5, 2022, council business meeting. All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

**LIQUOR LICENSE:** Mr. Rauch indicated there were no concerns with regard to the liquor license request for Christopher's Restaurant and Catering, D2B The Best, Inc. Council did

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not object to the request. Ms. Lommatzsch indicated they are only open at certain times and have a fixed menu, but it is all very good. They are working hard to make a go of it.

**WRITTEN CITIZEN PETITIONS:** Mayor Williams stated any citizen wishing to speak should fill out a petition found at the back of the room and turn it in to the clerk.

## **DEPARTMENT UPDATES:**

**A) Finance Department** – Mr. Garrett stated that the income tax was \$6.9 million through September recording, and they have received another \$300,000 for October. They are working on quarterly tax reports since it was the end of a quarter. Departments are making a few budget adjustments to finish out the year, so they are assisting with that. In December, they will make their semi-annual bond payments on the paving programs and a couple of vehicle loans. They are fairly occupied with the SSI conversion and going through the training classes doing a parallel payroll to make sure they get the same answer from SSI as they do the existing software.

**B) Administration Department** – Mr. Lohr stated that the health insurance renewal looks very good with very little or no cost increase for city employees. It is not finalized yet, and they are keeping open the possibility of joining the Ohio Benefits Cooperative open. Over the past few years, he has utilized Tech Advisors for a number of IT projects such as the citywide Wi-Fi system upgrade and the Office 365 upgrade. He would like to switch to that company for managed IT services so legislation will be coming forward next month in November to request council approval.

**C) Community Development Department/City Manager Report** - Mr. Rauch stated they are keeping the online portion of the Land Use Plan participation open for another week. If people have not had an opportunity to go online it will be available until next week. They will meet with MKSK later next week to work on a plan for deliverables for that Land Use Plan. The next council meeting will have a lot of housekeeping items to attend to. November 3<sup>rd</sup> will be the only council business meeting with a work session on November 10<sup>th</sup>; they will then meet again the first of December.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS:** Mayor Williams stated that one slip was turned in to comment on an agenda item, but it is for the upcoming ordinance so comment can be made during that public hearing.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. ORDINANCES**

- I) Ordinance No. 22-O-809 – An ordinance declaring city property on Richland Drive, Parcel ID No. I39101406 0019, to no longer be needed for municipal purposes and to be surplus and authorizing the city manager to execute documents necessary to sell said property and declaring an emergency. (2<sup>nd</sup> reading, public hearing, and adoption)**



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Mr. Rauch stated that this is clean up work where the city owns a driveway, and the owner owns the parcel. They need to declare the driveway surplus so the city can part with the driveway and the owner can sell the property. He will then be able to work with the property owner and the city attorney to make the property transfer happen.

Deputy Mayor Denning moved, seconded by Mr. Joseph, to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 22-O-807. The clerk read the ordinance by title only.

Mayor Williams opened the public hearing at 6:28 pm. No one came forward. Mayor Williams closed the public hearing at 6:28 pm.

Roll call went as follows: Mr. Denning, yes; Mr. Joseph, yes; Mrs. Franklin, yes; Ms. Fry, yes; Ms. Lommatzsch, yes; Mr. Maxfield, yes; and Mayor Williams, yes. **Motion carried.**

Mr. Rauch indicated that they have the components of a purchase agreement in place so they can now finalize it and work with Mr. Lane.

## NEW BUSINESS

### A. RESOLUTIONS

- I) Resolution No. 22-R-2796 - A resolution authorizing the finance director of the City of Riverside to see advance payment of collected taxes for the tax year 2022.**

Ms. Lommatzsch moved, seconded by Mr. Joseph, to approve Resolution No. 22-R-2796.

All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

- II) Resolution No. 22-R-2797 – A resolution authorizing the city manager to enter into a contract with Neyra Paving for concrete repairs at the City of Riverside Municipal Building, 5200 Springfield Street.**

Mr. Rauch stated this resolution is for replacement of the concrete walkway in front of the building to correct pop-ups that have bubbled up there recently.

Mr. Joseph moved, seconded by Deputy Mayor Denning, to approve Resolution No. 22-R-2797.

All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

- III) Resolution No. 22-R-2798 – A resolution authorizing the city manager to enter into a service agreement with the law offices of the Montgomery County Public Defender to provide legal counsel to indigent persons charged with violations of municipal ordinances for the year 2023, under certain terms and conditions.**

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Mr. Joseph moved, seconded by Mrs. Franklin, to approve Resolution No. 22-R-2798.

All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:** No one wished to comment.

**COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS:** Mr. Maxfield stated that October 27<sup>th</sup> at the Student Activity Center behind Stebbins High School there will be youth wrestling signups from 6:00 – 8:00 pm. Registration is \$30 and that includes a singlet shirt and entry to all tournaments. It is for students first through sixth grade, boy or girl. He added that Carroll may have a similar sign-up. Mrs. Franklin stated that residents on Wagon Wheel and Bayside that are dealing with water line replacement, the county is now running hydrants, and this could go on for a couple of days. She spoke with the county yesterday and was told this is part of a purification, a flush to get the chlorine level before they tap into the new waterline. The county stated it could be 2 – 3 days for each hydrant. Mayor Williams thanked everyone who helped with STEM night at the high school. Both police and fire were there along with the school resource officer. He thanked everyone who had a hand in that.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Mr. Joseph moved, seconded by Mr. Maxfield, to adjourn. All were in favor. **Motion carried.** The meeting adjourned at 6:34 pm.

  
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Peter J. Williams, Mayor  
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Clerk of Council

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